

Dr. Colman's
S E R M O N

To the Honourable
Artillery Company.

June 5. 1738.

Dr. C. H. F.

S E R M O N



CHRIST standing for an ENSIGN
of the People.

A

S E R M O N

preached to the Honourable and Ancient
ARTILLERY COMPANY

in Boston,

June 5. 1738.

Being the Day of the Finishing their
first Century.

By *Benjamin Colman, D. D.*

Published at the Desire of many of the Hearers.

Exod. xvii. 15. *The LORD my Banner.*

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CHRIST Standing
for an ENSIGN of the People:



Isaiah xi. 10.

And in that Day there shall be a Root of Jesse, which shall stand for an Ensign of the People ; to it shall the Gentiles seek, and his Rest shall be glorious.



THE whole Chapter is a most noble and illustrious Prophecy of the wise and peaceful, victorious and triumphant Reign of the Messiah. It is the Person of JESUS, the Son of David, the Son of Jesse, in the Offices and Benefits of our Lord Redeemer, that is here displayed under the Similitude of an Ensign, Standard and Banner, unto them that fear him and because of the Truth.

He,

CHRIST standing for

*HE, the * Head of the Body, the Church, who also bears on his Shoulders * the Government of the whole World, is the Rod from the Stem of Jesse, v. i. and also the Root of Jesse, which is the greater Dignity, born in my Text. He is both the Root and Offspring of David : Rev. xxii. 16. In his Divine Nature the Root, in his Humane the Branch or Offspring ; Immanuel, God with us ; “ in two distinct Natures and one Person for ever.*

In the second Verse of the Chapter his Glory is display'd as the ANOINTED ; anointed with the HOLY SPIRIT in his immeasurable Gifts and Graces ; “ *The Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon Him, the Spirit of Wisdom and Understanding, the Spirit of Counsel and Might, the Spirit of Knowledge and of the Fear of the Lord ; and shall make Him of quick Understanding* ” therein, — which is the highest Accomplishment of every Prince, or Commander in Chief or Subordinate ; for then “ Righteousness will be the Girdle of their Loins, and Peace the Blessing of their Rule and Command ; which is the Abstract of my Context.

You see then, my Fathers and Brethren, Fellow-Soldiers under the one Ensign and Standard of CHRIST, Whom we Gentiles are to be looking, seeking and gathering unto ; that his Rest may be glorious in us as a part of his Church, and ours in Him, whose Banner over us is Love. Cant. ii. 4. You see your King and General, the Captain of your Salvation, and are now in his Presence, to behold

* The two Subjects of the public Sermons, preached the Week before, to the Convention of Ministers by the Rev. Mr. Barnard, and to the General Court by Mr. Webb.

his

his Glory, to hear his Word of Command, and to seek his Favour and Protection. The Armies of Heaven follow Him, and bles's His all ye his Hosts, ye Ministers of his that do his Pleasure ; with all his Works, in all Places of his Dominion ; bless the LORD O our Souls † !

Could I possibly bring You, our Honour'd Commanders, a more charming or more awful sight of our L ORD and of his Church ; to constrain your Duty to Him and his People ! Look only with his Eyes upon the Part of his Church put under your Watch and Protection, and you will be constrain'd to take up his Words of Transport and Rapture ; Cant. vi. 4, 10, 13. " Thou art beautiful, " O my Love, as Tirzah ; comely as Jerusalem, " terrible as an Army with Banners ! turn away " thine Eyes from me, for they have overcome " me ! — Who is She that looketh forth as the " Morning, fair as the Moon, clear as the Sun, and " terrible as an Army with Banners ? — Or ever " I was aware, my Soul made me like the Cha- " riots of Ammi-nadib. Return, return, O Shu- " lamite, that we may look upon thee ! What will " ye see in the Shulamite ? as it were the Company of two Armies : Mahanaim ; the two Hosts of Angels guarding the Church in Jacob's House ; or rather Jews and Gentiles united under the Banner of Christ, a Vision but little lower than that of Angels.

Forgive me this Excursion in the beginning of my Discourse, my Reverend Hearers ; and You Gentlemen in Arms, who have on a sudden press'd

† Rev. xix. 14. Psalm ciii. 20, 21, 22.

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me to speak my last to you, when others have fail'd you.

It is now almost Forty Years ago that I spake to your Fathers in this Place, and on this Solemnity; and I then led 'em to Jesus; to the Faith in Him, whereby the heroic Saints of old Time subdued Kingdoms ||, wro't Righteousness, obtained Promises, out of Weakness were made Strong, waxed valiant in Fight, and turned to Flight the Armies of the Aliens. It is the Will of Christ, my Brethren, that They without Us should not be made perfect; and therefore I would now finish as I began, and lead you again to your standing Colours, CHRIST your Ensign; (the Alpha and Omega, the Beginning and the Ending, the first and the last; which is, and which was, and which is to come, the Almighty! the same yesterday, to Day and for ever:) And I doubt not but you will gladly be led again and again to Him, the glorious Object of your saving Faith, the Author and the Finisher thereof.

Now then, my Brethren, To your Leader and Standard! to your Ensign and Banner! to your Lord and Saviour, to whom the Apostle (after David * and Isaiab) directs your Hearts and Eyes, repeating my Text, Rom. xv. 10, 11, 12. Rejoyce ye Gentiles with his People! praise the Lord ye Gentiles, and laud him all ye People! as Esaias saith,
 " There shall be a Root of Jesse, and He shall rise to
 " reign over the Gentiles, in Him shall the Gentiles
 " trust.

|| Heb. xi. 33. Anno 1702. Primitia Juventutis, et Senectutis Fructus. Psalm lxxi. 17, 18. xcii. 14, 15. * Psalm xx and xxi.

an ENSIGN of the People. 5

See then your present pleasurable Work, my happy *Hearers!* it is to contemplate your SAVIOUR under this Similitude and Comparison, the ENSIGN for your Souls to gather to.

It is no empty *Flourish* you are invited to! it is JESUS in his saving Offices and Benefits you are come forth to see! “ behold Him, behold Him! red in his Apparel, with died Garments from Bozrab! travelling in the Greatness of his Strength! speaking in Righteousness and mighty to save! “ Look to Him and be saved, all the Ends of the Earth † !

i. He is the *Ensign* and *Standard* set up from Everlasting, in the eternal Counsel and Decree of God; from the Beginning or ever the Earth was; the FATHERS everlasting Delight and rejoicing in the habitable Parts of the Earth; these Parts of it, which He then saw and ordained to be inhabited by our Fathers. Prov. viii. 23, 31.

And this royal Standard of Heaven was first displayed on Earth, to the Confusion of Devils and the everlasting Wonder and Praises of Angels and Men, in that glorious Revelation and Promise to our first Parents, Gen. iii. 15. “ A SEED of the Woman to break the Serpents Head, with his bruised Heel.

Heaven then held out the Flag of sovereign Grace, with these Words written on it; this Figure drawn thereon, “ A Serpent peircing the Heel of a Godlike Man, but his Head crush'd by it. The

† Isaiah Ixiii. 1, 2. xlvi. 22.

CHRIST standing for

Standard bore the Image of God's dear Son, in our Nature, treading the Dragon, the Devil and Satan, into Hell ; from off that Dust, where it had crawl'd and rear'd its poisnous Head.

Indeed our Saviour is the *Ensign* lift up thro' the whole *written Word*, and display'd from *Sabbath* to Sabbath, in the preached *Gospel*. He is lifted up on high by *Moses* and the *Prophets*, and by the inspired *Apostles* of the *New Testament*; and after them, all the *Ministers* of Christ in all his Churches, thro' the whole Earth and to the End of Time, are *Standard-bearers*; to bear his Name and Truth, his Law and Covenant, his Promises and Threatnings, unto all People. We preach *Christ* crucified, buried, risen, ascended and reigning at the *Fathers* right Hand, and coming again in the Clouds of Heaven. He was lift up as an *Ensign* on the *Cross*, and from the *Grave* in his Resurrection, and yet more in his *Exaltation* to the right Hand of Power ! *Christ* the *Power* of God and the *Wisdom* of God, and the *Righteousness* of God for us.

2. An *Ensign* is a *conspicuous* thing; to be *look'd on, seen, beheld* and consider'd; and such is *Christ*.

This is the gracious *Evangelical Phrase*, “*Look-ing to Jesus* * ! the gracious *Gospel Precept*, “*be-hold me, behold me !* and the gracious *constraining Promise*, “*they shall look upon Him whom they have pierced.*

Strong is the *Eye* of Faith, and the *Hand* of Prayer, to *reach* the highest Heaven, and bring

* Heb. xii. 2. Imai. lvi. 1. Zech. xii. 10.

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down *Salvation* from the exalted *Jesus*. We must look and *admire*, look and *love*, look and *ascend* to Him, on the Wings of strong *Desire* and un-failing *Faith*. He has said, John xiii. 32. “*And I, if I be lifted up from the Earth, will draw all Men to me. Amen, Glorious LORD!*”

From Heaven we also look for Him again, in *Power* and great *Glory*. The *Angels* of *Jesus* bid the *Disciples* do so in the Hour of his *Ascension*: *Acts i. 11. Ye Men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into Heaven? this same Jesus which is taken up into Heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen Him go into Heaven.*

Without Controversy great is this *Mystery of Godliness*, the *Visions* of the *Son of Man* as in the *Glories* of the Only-begotten of the Father: *i Tim. iii. 16. God was manifest in the Flesh, justified in the Spirit, seen of Angels, preached to the Gentiles, believed on in the World, received up to Glory.*

3. The Standard is set up, and the *Ensign* display'd, for People to gather unto, and such is *Christ*. To *Him* shall the *Gentiles* seek; says my *Text*, and after it the *Prophet* goes on, *He shall set up an Ensign to the Nations, and gather the dispersed of Judah, and assemble the Outcasts of Israel.*

This was the *Ancient* and famous *Promise*, in the *Prophecy* concerning *Judah*, and the *Blessing* wherewith his *Father* blessed him! *Gen. xlix.* “*The Sceptre shall not depart from Judah, nor a Lawgiver from between his Feet, until Shiloh come; and unto Him shall the Gathering of the People be.*

CHRIST standing for

This is the first Meaning and Use of the Standard, for summoning and inviting Persons to *inlist* themselves, and for the *assembling* of the inlisted. The *Tribes of Israel*, in their Incampments and Marches thro' the *Wilderness*, had each their own Standard, and they pitched about their own Ensign; Numb. ii. 2. "Every one by his own Standard, with the Ensign of their Fathers House. This made their *Camp* look beauteous and yet terrible in their Order and Array : "How goodly were thy Tents, O Jacob ! as the Valleys were they spread forth, and as Gardens by the Rivers side : He couched, he lay down as a Lion, and who dare stir him up ? Numb. xxiv. 5, 9.

The Spirit of Prophecy in after Times speaks of this Use of the Ensign ||, to call the Nations from far, and to *bis*s to 'em from the Ends of the Earth ; to come with speed swiftly, with their Loyns girt ! And thus runs the Burden of *Babylon* ; "Lift ye up the *Banner* upon the high Mountain, exalt the *Voice* to 'em, and shake the *Hand*, to go up'to her Gates : "I have commanded my sanctified Ones, I have called my mighty Ones, &c.

The *Gospel* is preached to the Nations for this very End, to enter them in a *War* against *Sin* and *Satan*, and for the Defence and Support of the *Kingdom of Christ*, his Truths and Ways, People and Worship. We gather to Him as our Ensign by our *Profession* of Faith in his Name, by our *assembling* to Worship from one *Lords-day* unto another, in his appointed Ways. Of Him the whole Family in Heaven and Earth are named.

an ENSIGN of the People.

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To his one *Altar* the *Tribes* go up, to give *Thanks* to his Name, to Worship the Lord in the *Beauties of Holiness*. — So the *Tabernacle* of the Lord stood in the *midst* of the encamped *Tribes*, and marched in the *midst* of them. The *Cloud*, the *Glory* and *Shechinah* was their Standard ; when that *went* they did, when that *stood* they rested round about it. *Christ* was there with his *shining Hosts* of *Angels*, their *Guard* and *Conductors*. There were their holy *Convocations*, there was the holy *Law* deposited in the sacred *Ark*, and there stood the *Altars* of *Burnt-Offering* and *Incense* : There stood the golden *Table* with the *Shew-Bread*, and there hung the golden *Candlestick*, with the burning *Lights*. All was but a *Figure of Christ* in the *Flesh*, *enlightning* the *Multitudes* in the *Mount* with his heavenly *Doctrine*, feeding them with the *Bread of Life*, and then offering Himself a *Sacrifice* on the *Tree*. The Day of *Pentecost* was the famous *Time* of the Ingathering of *Jews* and *Gentiles* together : Christ was the *Ensign* lifted up in the *rustling Wind*, and *cloven Tongues*, and the *Thousands of Converts* ; the *Tongues* were for gathering in the *Nations* to him. *Acts ii. 32.* “ This *Jesus* hath God raised up, whereof we are *Witnesses* ! therefore being by the right Hand of God exalted, and having received of the Father the *Gift of the Holy Ghost*, he hath shed abroad this which ye see and hear : As it is written by David, “ The Lord said unto my Lord, “ Sit Thou at my right Hand until I make thy Foes thy Footstool : Therefore let all the House of Israel know assuredly, that God hath made that same Jesus, whom ye have crucified both Lord and Christ.” This prick’d ‘em to Heart, and made ‘em come in ; “ Men and Brethren, what shall we do ? In all *Christ* was the *Ensign*, to gather in *Souls* to Himself.

4. The

4. The Standard and Ensign is for *Union*, for the gather'd People to *unite* under ; to *unite* in *Affection* and to join their *Strength* : and such is *Christ* to his Church.

There is one *Lord*, and one *Body* ; one *Faith* and one *Baptism*. All *Christians* declare themselves to be as one, and bind themselves to be so. They list in one *Cause*, and engage in one *Design*, which is *Christ's*. John xi. 52. That he should gather together in One the Children of God which are scatter'd abroad. They gather to Him as their common *Lord* and *General*, to his *Colours* ; or if you will into his *Fold* ; for there is one *Fold* and one *Shepherd*. One is the *Head*, *Christ*, and the many *Members* are one *Body* ; animated by one *Spirit*, and having the same *Care* one of another *. *Christ* is the *Centre* of *Unity* to his People ; the *Faith* and *Love* in Him is the *Band* and *Means* of it. What He ask'd of the *Father* for his *Chosen*, that his *Apostle* declares to be granted, and true in fact : He pray'd for them, "That they may be one, one in Us, as Thou *Father* art in Me and I in Thee : This the *Apostle* affirms of true Believers, "Ye are all one in *Christ Jesus*. As we read of the *Multitude* of the first Believers, that they were of one *Heart* and of one *Soul*. Acts iv. 32. So *Soldiers* are one, an *Army* is one ; and their *Unity* like the *Form* of a *Phalanx*, is their *Force* and *Strength* ; to bear down all before them.

5. The Standard, Ensign and *Flag* of the *King* or *State* is for the *Protection* of the *Subject* ; and such is *Christ* to his Church, its almighty *Protector* and

* Eph. iv. 5. i. 10. 1 Cor. xiii. 13. x. 17. Gal. iii. 28.
John x. 16. Col. i. 18. 1 Cor. xii. 25. John xvii. 21.
Defence.

Defence. We repair to Him for *Salvation*, and nothing less; we flee to Him and are safe. He is our King, and shall save us. His Name is *Jehovab-nissi*, the *Lord our Banner!* the *Lord our Righteousness*. Write this on our One Altar and Sacrifice. This Name of our God and Saviour defend us! send us Help from his *Sanctuary*, and strengthen us out of *Sion*! we will rejoice in his *Salvation*, and set up our *Banners*! Some trust in *Chariots* and some in *Horses*, but we will remember the *Name of the Lord our God!* Save *Lord*, let the *King* hear us when we call! Be thou *exalted*, *Lord*, in thy own *Strength*; so will we sing and praise thy *Power*. Psalm xx and xxi.

David, the valiant and the warlike *Prince*, had all his Courage and Conduct inspir'd from on High; and to *God alone* he looks and ascribes, and relies in Raptures of Faith and Devotion. Psalm xviii. “I will love thee, O *Lord* my Strength; my Rock, my Fortress, my Deli-
verer! my God, my Strength, in whom I will trust; my Buckler, and the Horn of my Sal-
vation, and my high Tower! I will call up-
on the *Lord*, who is worthy to be praised, so shall I be saved from my Enemies.” Psal. xliv.

4, — 8 “Thou art my King, O *God*; com-
mand Deliverances for *Jacob*: thro' Thee wilt
we push down our Enemies, thro' thy Name
will we tread them under that rise up against
us: For I will not trust in my Bow, nor shall
my Sword save me: But Thou hast saved us
from our Enemies, and hast put them to shame
that hated us: In *God* we boast all the Day
long, and Praise thy Name for ever.” Psal.
lxii. 5, — 8. “My Soul wait thou only upon
God, for all my Expectation is from Him: He
only

" only is my Rock and my Salvation, He is my
 " Defence, I shall not be moved: In God is my
 " Salvation and my Glory, the Rock of my
 " Strength, and my Refuge is in God: Trust in
 " Him at all times ye People, pour out your
 " Hearts before Him, God is a Refuge for us."

Thus *David*, the Man after the *Heart of God*, the *Hero of the Church*; in all his *Wars*, from his first facing the Giant *Goliath*, to his putting on the *Crown of the King of Rabbah*, dwelt ever in the *Secret of the Most High*, and abode under the *Shadow of the Almighty*, and said of the *Lord*, "He is my *Refuge and Fortress*; his *Truth* shall be my *Shield and Buckler*. Psal. xcii. 1, 4. So the *Ensign* is for the *safety* of the *Subject*; and happy the true *Subjects and Soldiers* of the merciful and faithful *Saviour*.

6. And lastly, The Standard and *Ensign* are more especially for a *Declaration of War*, a *Defiance of Enemies*, the *Conquest* of them and *Triumph* over them.

Christ has his *Enemies*, and *Souls* have theirs. His *Enemies* are *ours*, and the *Enemies* of our *Souls* are *his*. Against these the *Spirit of the Lord* prepar'd and rais'd a victorious Standard in the *Body of Jesus*, our atoning *Sacrifice* ||. He triumph'd over them on his *Cross*, spoiling *Principalities* and *Powers*, and making a shew of them openly. *Satan* like *Lightning* fell from Heaven, the *Prince of this World* was cast out.

We are all *lifted* in this *spiritual Warfare*, and must be *good Soldiers*, fighting the *good Fight*, and

|| Psal. xl. 6. Heb. x. 5. Col. ii. 15. Luke x. 18.

resisting

resisting unto Blood, in striving against Sin *. We had need be strong in the Lord and in the Power of his Might ; and put on the whole Armour of God, that we may be able to stand against the Wiles of the Devil. For we wrestle not only against Flesh and Blood, but against Principalities, against Powers, against the Rulers of the Darkness of this World, against spiritual Wickednesses in high Places. Strength, Armour and Courage is provided for us, to put on, prove, wear and use. " Wherefore (as the Holy Ghost saith) take to you the Armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil Day. Stand therefore having your Loyns girt about with Truth, and having on the Breast-plate of Righteousness, and your Feet shod with the Preparation of the Gospel of Peace : Above all taking the Shield of Faith, the Helmet of Salvation and the Sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God ; and praying always with all Prayer and Supplication in the Spirit. Good Armour truly for our own Day of Rebuke and Blasphemy, from the Infidelity of the Enemies of Christianity, who like Rabshakey reproach the Living God : Eno' to make us cry out with the mourning Prophet, " My Bowels, " my Bowels ! I am pained at my Heart ! because " thou hast heard, O my Soul, this Alarm of " War. We must heartily offer, and engage on the Side of Truth and Holiness. The Lord has sworn, that He will have War with Amalec for ever. Our Lusts, and their Confederates, the World and Devil, are this Amalec. The War is for Life, and the Lord will fight for us. More are with us than with them. We go forth

* 1 Tim. i. 18. 2. ii. 3. 4. 1. vi. 12. 1. Cor. ix. 26.

2 Cor. x. 4. Heb. xiii. 4. Eph. vi. 12.

in the Name of the *Lord of Hosts*, whom they *defy*. His *Ensign* is display'd against *Error* and *Vice*, Profaneness and Impiety, our *own* and *others* Sins. *Jer.* li. 25. "Behold I am against thee, O thou that destroyest the Earth! Set ye up the Standard, blow the Trumpet, prepare the Nations, and *Babylon* shall be a Desolation."

The *Ensign* is of various Use in War: to strike the Enemy with *Terror*, to animate and inspire *Courage*, and to lead on to *Victory* and *Triumph*.

i. The *Ensign* is to terrify the Enemy. The Army in *Array* is made terrible by their *flying Colours*. They are defying and threatening *Signs*. They threaten *Death* and *Slaughter*, *Destruction* and *Desolation*. The Flag of *Christ*, from *Heaven*, is a *bloody Flag* to all his impenitent Enemies. It is the *Flag of Death*; the *second Death* is written on it in black *Capitals*; *Death spiritual and eternal!* *Death and Hell following it.* *Rev. vi. 8.*

We read of the *Garments of Vengeance for Cloathing*, which the *Redeemer* puts on, when he *repays Fury to his Adversaries*; and this is the *Standard* lift up against the *Enemy*, when he comes in like a *Flood*. *Isai. lix. 17, 19.* So St. *John* saw the *Heavens opened*, *Rev. xix. 11.* and behold a *white Horse*, and He that sat on it was called *Faithful and True*, and in Righteousness he makes *War*: His *Eyes* are as a *Flame of Fire*, and on his *Head* are many *Crowns*, and he is clothed with a *Vesture dipt in Blood*, and his *Name* is called, "The *Word of G'd*; and out of his *Mouth* goeth a *sharp Sword* to smite the Nations, and He treadeth the *Winepress of the Fierceness and Wrath of Almighty God*: — and with a *loud Voice* he calls all the *Fowls of Heaven*, to eat the

the Flesh of Kings, of Captains and of Mighty Men.
This is the *Ensign* to strike the *Enemy* with *Terror*.

2. The Ensign *inspires Courage and animates the Host to Battel.* The flying Colours put *Life* into the *Soldier*, and lead him on *intrepid*. It bespeaks the *Host* and says, as our *Lord* does to us, “Look “on me and do likewise ! Come on without “ Fear ! Have not I commanded thee ? be strong “ and of a good Courage : be not afraid or dis-“ mayed, for the Lord thy God is with thee *:

Christ can inspire *Fortitude* and *Strength*, to *endure Hardness*, to *resist* unto *Blood*, to be *stedfast* and *immovable*, and not draw the *Hand back* that stretches out the *Spear*. *Jesus* can make *Joshuas*, and strengthen with *all Might* in the inner-man ; yea out of *Weakness* he makes *Strong*. Luke x. 19. “ Behold I give unto you Power to tread on “ Serpents and Scorpions, and over all the Power “ of the Enemy.” Accordingly read the Confidence and *Defiance* of Faith in Him: Rom viii. 37, 38. “ Nay in all these things we are more “ than Conquerors thro’ Him that loved us : “ for I am perswaded that neither Death, nor “ Life, nor Angels, nor Principalities, nor Powers, “ nor things present nor things to come, nor “ Height nor Depth, nor any Creature, shall be “ able to separate us from the Love of God, “ which is in Jesus Christ our Lord.

3. Here then is *Victory* and *Triumph* in the *Highest*, to the utmost, under our conquering *Ensign*, **CHRIST JESUS.**

* Josh. i. 6, 7, 9. Judges vii. 17.

1. *Victory.* We have a Standard that can never fall. Heaven and Earth shall pass away, but not a tittle of his Word. The everlasting God fainteth not, neither is weary. A Sampson may faint for Thirst, and one of the three mighty Men with David smote the Philistines till his Hand was weary, and clave to his Sword ; “ benum'd with holding it so long and fast † ; but they that war under Christ shall renew their Strength. He it is that brings forth Judgment unto Victory. He came and overcame, and in his Strength we conquer our Selves, the World and Devil. The Victory that overcomes them all is our Faith. The God of Grace, says the Apostle, shall bruise Satan under your Feet shortly. The Enemy may sometimes roar in the midst of the Congregation, and set up his Ensign in Assurance of Victory ; he may prevail over a Peter in an Assault, but not in the War ; No, Jesus has pray'd for him that his Faith fail not, and he returns to his Colours. Keep to your Ensign and you fright away the Enemy ; resist the Devil and he shall flee before you. Greater is He that is in you, than he that is in the World. What saith the SPIRIT to the Churches, thro' the second and third Chapters of the Revelations of JESUS CHRIST ? He speaks of all the Saints as Overcomers and Triumphant ; — To Him that overcometh will I grant — every high Honour and Glory that our immortal Souls can possibly aspire after or receive.

2. On Victory follows Triumph : Triumph for every one that overcomes. The Apostle therefore gives the Honour and Joy as common to all ;

† Clarke on 2 Sam. xxiii. 10. Isai. xl. 28. 1 John v. 4.
Rom. xvi. 20. Piat. lxxiv. 4. Jam. iv. 7. 1 John iv. 4.
2 Cor.

2 Cor. ii. 14. " Now Thanks be unto God, which
" always causeth us to triumph in Christ. Mi-
nisters triumph in the Success of their Ministry, and
the People with them; they triumph now toge-
ther, and will much more hereafter. When the
Lamb opened the first Seal, John heard a Voice
saying to him, Come and see! and behold a white
Horse, and He that sat on him had a Bow, and a
Crown was given him, and he went forth conquering
and to conquer. The Conquerors keep the Field
with their displayed Ensigns. There is an eter-
nal Triumph before every good Soldier of Jesus
Christ. He is triumphing at the Right Hand of the
FATHER, and all his Enemies are made his Footstool.
He wills that they also whom the Father has gi-
ven him, be with Him where He is, to behold his
Glory: He has promis'd them a Share in it; Rev.
iii. 21. " To him that overcometh will I grant
" to sit down with me on my Throne, as I also
" overcame and am set down with my Father on
" his Throne.

The Generals among the Romans had Triumphs
decreed them by the Senate, after Wars and Battles
of singular Renown and Profit to the Commonwealth.
These were Spectacles of high Pleasure both to
Small & Great among them. The Multitudes tri-
umph'd in & with their Generals, rending the Skies
with their Acclamations. But O how poor and
low were these Earthly Triumphs, to those of Hea-
ven, which the least Believers in Christ hope to
share in! Rev. vii. 9, 10. " And lo a great Mul-
" titude which no Man can number, of all Na-
" tions and Kindreds, People and Tongues, stood
" before the Throne of the Lamb, clothed with
" white Robes and Palms in their Hands; and
" they cried with a loud Voice, saying, " Sal-
" vation

18 CHRIST standing for

" vation to our God, which sitteth on the Throne,
" and to the Lamb" Again, hear the *Shout of Triumph* on the *Dragons Fall*, Rev. xii. 10. " Now
" is come Salvation and Strength, the Kingdom
" of our God and the Power of his Christ! and
" they overcame by the Blood of the Lamb, and
" by the Word of their Testimony! Wherefore
" rejoice ye Heavens, and they that dwell therein.

Thus the Standard of *War* and the Banner of *Love* are in the End one. Our Saviour *subdues* us to Himself, and *captures* us by his Grace, that we may *triumph* in his Love, over all his and our Enemies. And thus it has been from the *Beginning of Revenges on the Enemy*. Jer 1 2 " De-
"clare ye among the Nations and publish, and
" set up a Standard; *Babylon* is taken, *Bel* is
" confounded.

And thus have we seen, in many Respects, our glorious *SAVIOUR* standing for an *Ensign* of the People.

Every *Similitude* whereby He pleases to represent Himself, his *Offices* and *Benefits* to us, is beautiful and pleasant, teaching and very instructive, affecting and very moving, elegant and charming, endearing, awful and reverend.

You will own, my Honoured Brethren, Professors and Students in *Arms*, that this *Vision* of the *Son of Man*, the *Lord of Glory*, which has been passing before you, is most proper to your *Selves*, and the Occasion before us. And now learn You of *Joshua*, the best of *Captains* under *Jesus*, and prostrate your *Selves*, and worship the *Lamb of God*, to Whom you have consecrated your *Selves* and your *Arms*.

Arms. Josh. v. 13, 14. 15. " And it came to pass
" when Joshua was by Jerico, that he lift up his
" Eyes and looked ; and behold there stood a
" Man over against him, with his Sword drawn
" in his Hand : And Joshua went to him and
" said, " Art thou for us, or for our Adversa-
" ries ? And he said, " Nay, but as Captain of
" the Host of the Lord am I now come. And
" Joshua fell on his Face to the Earth and did
" worship ; and said, " What saith my Lord un-
" to his Servant ? And the Captain of the Lords
" Host said to Joshua, " Loose thy Shoe from
" off thy Feet, for the Place whereon thou stan-
" dest is holy : and Joshua did so.

Imagine, if you please, my *Brethren*, your own *Ensign* to Day bearing before You, your *professed Devotion to the Lamb* in the midst of the Throne, as it had been slain ; Or if you please, to the *Lion of the Tribe of Judah* : They are both *One*, and alike reverend and *holy* to You ; alike formidable to *Sinners* and pleasurable to *Saints*.

Let *CHRIST* be great and good and glorious in your Eyes ; the *chiefest of ten Thousands and altogether lovely*. Be You as the *valiant of Israel about his Bed* ; they all *hold Swords*, and are *expert in War*, every Man has his *Sword* upon his *Thigh*, because of *Fear in the Night*. You *watch for Christ's Church*, its *Preservation and Safety* ; He *wakes* for it and you. Let *Faith* make your *Necks* like the *Tower of David*, built for an *Armoury*, whereon there hang a *thousand Bucklers*, all *Shields of mighty Men*. Cant. iii. 7, 8. Such you will become by *Faith in your Saviour, and Obedience to Him* ; and he that is *feeble* shall be as *David*, and the *House of David* as the *Angel of God*.

See,

See, my Brethren, your Need of Christ, and your God your Glory. See your Danger by Distance from Him and Enmity against Him. Mourn all your Desertions from Him and Rebellions against Him. Never be it said of any One here present, "This my Enemy that would not have Me to reign over him!" Ever may the Lord be able to say of us, as the Centurion did to Him of the Soldiers under him, "I say unto one, Go, and be goeth, and to another, Come, and be cometh. Take the Sacrament of Fidelity to your General and King; (for the Word meant at first the Oath of Soldiers to their General.) You know who it is has said, and sworn by Himself, "Unto Me every Knee shall bow, and every Tongue shall swear! Surely shall one say, In the LORD have I Righteousness and Strength! to Him shall Men come, and all that are incensed against Him shall be ashamed; in the LORD shall all the Seed of Israel be justified and shall glory. Isa. xlvi. 23, 24, 25.

In this Address to You, my Fellow-Soldiers in the Kingdom and Patience of Jesus Christ †, I am perswaded you will think I act as becomes my Age ||. What else were worthy of your Souls and mine! Or were any of our deceased Fathers * to return and speak to You to Day, what else would They think worth saying to you! They that have finish'd the War, and see the Face of the Lamb, and know the Price of Souls, and of his Blood! — But Wo to all his Enemies both now

† Meaning the whole Assembly, and not the Company in Arms only; and so in many Parts of my following Address, and sometimes the whole Body of this People, had they been within hearing.

|| In my 65th Year.

* The finish'd Century directing my Tho's.

and

and another Day ! whom do they *fight* against, and whom do they *defy* ! under what *Ensign* do they war, and whose *Cause* do they *Support* ? you read — “ *The Dragon fought and his Angels ! He is your Captain and your King, if you fight against Christ.* But he can never prevail, tho' the *Kings of the Earth* should *confederate* with him, and the *Rulers* take *Counsel* together, against the *Lord* and his *Anointed*, saying, (Psal. ii. 3, 4, 5.) “ *Let us break their Bands asunder, and cast away their Cords from us ! He that sitteth in the Heavens shall laugh, the Lord shall have them in Derision ! He shall speak to them in his Wrath, and vex 'em in his sore Displeasure ! — I have set my King upon my holy Hill of Sion :* “ *Thou art my SON, this Day have I begotten thee ! Ask of me, and I will give Thee the Heathen for thine Inheritance, and the uttermost Parts of the Earth for thy Possession.*

It must be *own'd*, with Shame and Sorrow, that *little of Religion*, but Abundance of *Impiety*, is found among the *Men of Arms*, by *Land or Sea*, in *Camps* or *Navies*: The *SAVIOUR* and his *Blood* is *blasphemed* outrageously ! Yet such *vile Arms* have been often us'd by the King of the Church for its Defence and Service; for *He* makes even *Devils* to serve *Him*. And no wonder then to find *Armies* given up in the *Great Day of the Lord* for a *Prey to Satan*, or cast with *Devils* into the *Lake of Fire and Brimstone*: Rev. vi. 12, &c. “ *And I beheld when he had opened Sixth Seal, and —*
“ *the Sun became black as Sackcloth of Hair, and*
“ *the Moon became as Blood, and the Heaven departed as a Scrawl, when it is rolled together.* — *And the Kings of the Earth, and the great Men, and the rich Men, and the chief Captains, and the mighty Men, and every bond-*

CHRIST standing for

“ man and every free-man, hid themselves in the
 “ Dens and in the Rocks of the Mountains ;
 “ and said to the Mountains and Rocks, “ Fall
 “ on us, and hide us from the Face of Him that
 “ sitteth on the Throne, and from the Wrath of
 “ the Lamb ! for the great Day of his Wrath is
 “ come, and who shall be able to stand ?

And now Christians, whose Soldiers will you be !
 chuse you this Day and come, subscribe || with
 your Hand to the LORD ; “ Thine are we David,
 “ and on thy Side thou Son of Jesse ! Peace, Peace be
 “ to all thy Helpers ! — “ Gird thy Sword upon
 “ thy Thigh, O most Mighty, with thy Glory and thy
 “ Majesty ; and in thy Majesty ride prosperously, be-
 “ cause of Truth and Meekness and Righteousness ;
 “ and thy Right Hand shall teach thee terrible things.
 “ Thine Arrows are sharp in the Heart of the Kings
 “ Enemies, (to terrify, convert or slay) either
 “ way the People fall under Thee : Thy Throne, O God,
 “ is for ever and ever ; the Sceptre of thy Kingdom is
 “ a right Sceptre. — “ The Lord shall send the
 “ Rod of thy Strength out of Zion ; rule Thou in the
 “ midst of thy Enemies ! thy People shall be willing
 “ in the Day of thy Power, in the Beauties of Holiness,
 “ from the Womb of the Morning (from the Day of
 “ Pentecost, the Dawning of the Gospel) Thou hast
 “ the Dew of thy Youth ; thy early Converts, nume-
 “ rous as the Dew, and gently softned by the de-
 “ scending Doctrines of a Saviour, as Showers upon
 “ the Grass.

Gentlemen in Arms, Let this be your first Character,
 that You are of this bleſſed Company and Number.

|| Isai. xliv. 5. 1 Chron. xii. 18, Psal. xlv. 3, 4. cx. 3. 4.
 Christ

Christ has called You to be his Soldiers, like the trained Family of Abraham †, whose Blessing is come upon you by Faib, who also saw Christ's Day and was glad. The Heroic Patriarch at the Head of his small victorious Host, paid his grateful Tythes to this King of Glory, the Lord strong and mighty, the Lord mighty in Battle, the King and Priest of the Most High God; and He blessed Abraham in that High Name. The King of Salem, the Prince of Peace, brought forth Bread and Wine to the valiant Father of the Faithful, and blessed the most High God who had delivered his Enemies into his Hand. Just so, the LORD your Banner displays Himself, his Grace and Benefits to You and to all of us, in his Gospel-Feast; to whom You have there lift up your Hands, with your Hearts, that the King of Glory might come in. If You, my Brethren, in your Places, and under your Colours, are faithful to Christ, your King and Country, You also shall be blessed of the Most High God.

Your Earthly Captain General * is here present to go before You. And I doubt not but He will gladly lead You toward a better World. I am persuaded He has chosen the LORD to serve Him in the Way of these Churches; and that many of You also have given your Hearts with your Names to Christ ||. May you all be found Chosen and Called and Faithful. Such are They that truly war under the LAMB, who is the Lord of Lords, and King of Kings. Rev. xvii. 14.

† I humbly hope the Company were never before address'd with a more cordial Respect, or more seriously.

* Governour BELCHER.

|| How then should it be tho't I mean any thing disparaging to such personally, in any thing hereafter said?

Your Fathers had the Honour to be enrolled Soldiers on the Lord's Side *. They had a sure Prospect of enduring Hardship for His Truths and Ways. Like Peter they walk'd to Him on the Sea, and their Feet did not sink. To Perils by Water succeeded new Dangers and Fatigues on Shore. A wild Desert, and many barbarous Salvages, was to be subdued by their Arms. Their Zeal for Christ, whose Cause they had at Heart, animated them for the Labour and Encounter. After the manner of Christian Men they fought here with Beasts ||, in Hope of a better World, the Heavenly. They trusted in God, and from Time to Time had the Evidences of his Presence with them. "They got not the Land in Possession by their own Sword, neither did their own Arm save them; but thy right Hand and thy Arm, O LORD, and the Light of thy Countenance, because Thou hadst a Favour unto them. What got they in Temporals for themselves? or rather what Loss for Christ's sake did they not suffer? leaving all to follow Him! but for spiritual and eternal Gains. — What have they not left to us their Children? a most pleasant and goodly Heritage on temporal Accounts, as we must acknowledge who have seen other (and the better) Parts of the World: But above all, they sought for us, and have bequeath'd unto us, "the Heritage of those that fear Gods Name! Purity of Worship and Liberty of Conscience; a valuable Portion, for the Purchase whereof they counted no Travel or Expence too much: That Kingdom of God, which is not Meat

* The Completion of your Century led me into the large Consideration of the Piety and Fortitude of our Fathers.

|| 2 Tim ii. 3. Matth. xiv. 30. 2 Cor. xi. 26. 1 Cor xv. 32. Mark x. 28, 29. Psalm lxi. 5. cxix. 111. Rom. xiv. 17. Psalm cxi. 5, 6, 7.

and Drink, but Righteousness and Peace and Joy in the Holy Ghost. God gave 'em the Heritage of the Heathen, and Meat, being ever mindful of his Covenant, and shewed them the Power of his Works ; which are all Verity and Judgment, all his Commandments are sure.

God gave 'em Valour and Conduct ; for *Wisdom and Strength are His.* He said, and spake effectually unto them, as He had done to Joshua when he was entering Canaan, “ Only be thou strong and very courageous, to observe to do according to all my Law. Josh. i. 7. They were inspired accordingly to act a brave and Christian Part, for the Law of their God and the saving Good of their Posterity.

Religion and Learning, Churches and Schools were their first Care ; and for these they laid a wise and strong Foundation, while they might seem but weak and feeble for it, to propagate a well instructed and a godly Seed. They proposed nobly and great, and projected wisely the surest Means, beginning humbly and creeping alone in their Infant-State.

Only in respect of Arms they commenc'd Men at once ; sought their own and the Natives Peace, did all they could to teach and win and save 'em : But when Hatred was return'd for their Love and Enmity for their offer'd Friendship, they resolutely defended themselves, and pursu'd their Invaders. God sent his Fear before them, and one as it were chas'd a Thousand. The Plague also had made Room for them, and set 'em in a large Place. This Settlement on religious Principles and Motives prosper'd, while others on worldly Motives failed.

Our

Our Founders died in Faith, and dead call us to
Prudence, Meekness, Devotion, Courage & Love.

They pray'd and wro't and fought ; plow'd and built, with their *Guns and Swords by their Side*, like *Nebemiah* and the *Remnant* in his Day. How ardent were they on their *Sabbaths*, how diligent and frugal all the Week long. Only their *Training-days*, and Days for Electing their *Civil Rulers*, were those of their *Show and Pride*. Then they took *State* upon 'em, and made an *Appearance* ; to express their *Thankfulness* to God their *Trust*, and to inspire their Sons with *Reverence of God and Government*, and with a *Zeal to maintain and preserve* what They had so worthily acquir'd for them, by the *Blessing of God*. Just as *Moses* and *Joshua* did, for their Learning, in the *Minority of Israel*.

ORDER was their Aim. This was sacred to 'em, as it is thro' the *Creation of God*. A just *Rule* and *Liberty* they sought, in *State*, in *Church*, in *Families* and *Schools*. They put great *Honour* on their *Officers*, who were ambitious to deserve their *Titles* and command *Respect*. A *Corporal* look'd as great as a *Captain* now, and set *more* by his *Office*, being *much* set by. This was not *Vanity* but true *Wisdom* ; for by their looking *great*, and acting so, we soon grew great among the *Provinces*. *Governours* shone with their *hundred a Year*, and none durst despise them. The *Majors* were then *Colonels*, and the *Captains* were more than *Roman Centurions*, without any of their *Usurpation or Ostentation*.

See your *Original*, our present *Honoured Commanders*, and write fair after your *Copy*. Look to the *Rock* from whence you were digged, and read these things *graven* on it as with the *Point of*

of a Diamond. They are not worn out to this Day, tho' more than a hundred Years past. Remember the Days of old, the Years of ancient Times, when the Most High divided to You your present Inheritances and Honours.

This Day is your Jubilee, Gentlemen of the Artillery, your second Jubilee; for You are a hundred Years old. Where is your Jubilee-Trumpet, the Thunder of the Captains and the Shouting! "God is gone up with a shout (the LORD GOD of your Fathers) sing Praises to Him, sing Praises; and do it with Understanding: the Shields of the Earth belong to God, He is greatly exalted."

You tell me that your compleat Age this Day has partly led you to apply to me. I would not damp your Joy of coming at Age, by looking back with Tears, as the Fathers at Jerusalem, did on our first Love, Virtue and Fortitude. We are risen up in our Fathers stead an Inferior Generation, except in Numbers, or at least in Proportion to our Numbers, as in respect of Religion, so also of Arms.

Our Scarlet and Crimson * can boast no proved

* A very proper Dress for Officers and others in the Militia, in my Eye; for I think Soldiers should array themselves in a distinguishing Habit on their Days of Training, if they can well afford it; and so far as I can remember, or have been informed, our Fathers did so: so that I could not mean any Reflection on the present Dress of the Gentlemen in Arms, as some have been ready to take the Words. And as to the present Expence, I know not whether it be much more than our Fathers Buff and Ribbands were in their Day. And if it be, I suppose the present Officers and Soldiers have as good Estates to bear it, and many of them much greater; tho' the Land is poor and in Distress thro' want of a Medium for Trade.

Valour

Valour || equal to their *hardy Buff*. Our Children it may be would be frighted to see the *Dress* and *Aspect* of one of their Great Grandfathers on such a Day as this. They put on *Courage* and it clothed them, and they took on 'em an *Authority*, which together with their *Righteousness* was their *Crown* and *Diadem*. The *Captains* aw'd their *Families* and *Neighbours* † by their *Gravity* and *Piety*, as

|| This also can by no means intend any Reflection on the *Valour* of the present *Officers* or *Soldiers*, because the *divine Providence* has not made our Day a *Time of War*; and so has not call'd us, as it did our *Fathers*, to jeopard our Lives in the *Fields of the Wood*, or rather in the *Thickets* and *Swamps* of it.

If there were now the like *Lurkings* of the bloody *Salvages* about our *Villages*, or the like *breaking in* and *carrying forth* on our *Borders*, as were in our *Fathers Days* and in some of our own *Times*; I doubt not but there would be found *Those* of the present *Generation*, who by the *Help of God*, and in his *Fear*, would seek the *Enemy* in their *hiding-places*, as in the *Close* of the *late War* many did with great *Boldness* and *Success*; and their *Praise* has been in our *Pulpits* and from our *Press*.

Nor ought I to omit the proved *Valour* of Captain *Lyman*, with two or three more *Volunteers* in his *Youth*, who penetrated far into our *Woods* to seek out the *Enemy*; and by cutting off a single *Family* (as I am told) they struck such a *Terror* into a *Clan* who were advantageously *posting* themselves for a *ready* and *easy Descent* upon our several *Provinces*, by our three grand *Rivers*; that finding the *English* had got so nigh to the fine *Interval Land* they had chosen, they were *intimidated* and hasted away. Such *Attempts* may look *small* to some, and be little remembred by most with *Thankfulness* to *God*, and to the just *Honour* of the *Persons* that serve under his *Influence*; but who can tell the *Favour* of *God* and *Benefit* to a *Country* by them?

† As also it must be acknowledg'd, to the *Glory of God*, that not a few of our present *Commanders* do at this Day; being bright *Examples* of *Virtue* and *Devotion*, *Generosity*, *Gravity* and *Wisdom*, and justly esteem'd by all that know them.

well

well as frighted their *Enemies* by their Boldness and Fierceness. The *Natives* trembled when they saw them train, and old as well as young stood still and reverenc'd 'em, as they pass'd along in *Martial Order*. A valiant *Church** could jump down a kind of Precipice, amidst a Score or two of *Counsellors* & Attendants about their *Sachem*, meditating *War* upon us, and take him away, to answer to our *Governour*. *Fuit, fuit ista quondam in hac Republica Virtus, ut Viri fortes* — — .

And very precious is the Promise in the Book of God, “*In stead of the Fathers shall be the Children, whom thou mayest make Princes in all the Earth.* Psal. xlvi. 16. I thank God that we have seen, and still see, many of the Sons of New-England shining in the *Virtues*, filling well the *Places*, and adorning the *Names* of their Ancestors.

Such was our late Honourable *Agent Quincy*, at the Head of his *Regiment*, in his Seat at the *Council Board*, and on the *Bench of Judgment*. Gentlemen of the *Artillery*, You will give me leave to mourn before you the lamented *Death* of such a *Captain*. He was an *Honour* to his *Commission*, lov'd and feard by all under him. — We read o the *Meekness of Wisdom*; This he had, and also the *Mildness of Courage*. May our *Country* ever be blessed with Men of like *Modesty*, *Constancy* and *Fortitude*. All he did was from *Conscience* toward God, and in his *Fear*. Had he lived in the Days of our *Fathers*, I truly think he would have been esteem'd a very perfect *Pattern* by them. There was a *Treasure of Piety, Prudence and Integrity*

* Afterward Col. Church of Little Compton.

in that Earthen Vessel ; and such Men should be priz'd while they live, and mourn'd when they die ; as no small Part of the peculiar Treasure of the Provinces.

The Residue of the Spirit is with God ; and down to our Days he takes of the Spirit that was on Moses, and puts it on Rulers here and there ; and also Joshua's Spirit on Commanders in Chief and Subordinate. God has many a David in store for his Church, in Times long to come, to serve their own Generation, after his own Heart, in Integrity and Uprightness : And then how easy is it for 'em to fall asleep, and be gathered to their Fathers ? Acts xiii. 36.

But should an Angel of the Lord now appear to such a One yet alive among us, finding him we will suppose in his Threshing-floor or by his Cyder-press ||, and salute him, saying, " The LORD is with thee, thou Man of Valour ! would he not be ready to answer in Gideon's Words, " O my Lord, if the LORD be with us, why then is it thus ? why are Things with us as they are ? and where be all the Tokens of his Presence among us, as in the Days of our Fathers ? what is become of that generous noble public Spirit of Piety and Prudence, Gravity and Authority, Courage and Command, + Subjection and Obedience, Reverence of God and Government, Temperance and Frugality, Godliness and Honesty, which our Fathers were famous for ? — The LORD look on every One disposed to speak after this Manner, and say unto Them that

|| Or in his Store-house or Shop.

+ All Orders and Degrees are you see put together, and the lowest taken in.

Spiriting Word, Judges vi. 14. *Go thou, in this thy Might, and help to save my People out of their present Weakness and Feebleness, Folly and Impoverishment, the Poverty that is come upon them as an armed Men.*

Do we ask, what has bro't on us this *Want*, as one that travelleth? Prov. vi. 11, It is easy to answer, — Our Wordliness, and *Pride*, *Sensuality*, *Vain-glory*, *Fineries* and profuse *Expence* in Dress and Furniture; which have naturally led into *Unrighteousness* and *Dishonesty*: These have bro't us low, and will bring us lower if not amended, and lay our Honour in the Dust.

Neither the *Christian*, nor the *Roman* Spirit can subsist long under our profuse Expences, in the Furniture of our *Houses*, the rich *Dresses* of our *Families*, our *Silks* and *China* and empty Pockets ||.

E 2

Within

|| I think it is as plain as the *Light*, to them that will not shut their Eyes thro' Prejudice of *Vanity* or *Gain*, that our living beyond our selves in rich *Attire* and *Equipage*, within Doors and without, has bro't us into our *Debts* to our Mother-Country, and hereby into those *Straits* and *Difficulties*, for want of a *Silver Currency*, and by Reason of the depreciating the *Bills* of our Provinces, which every Body complains of, and none can tell how to remedy. There is in my Opinion but one possible Cure, and that is (as a People) to repent of and reform our Expences and Extravagances.

But can any one think this *Censure* of our *Silks* and *China*, with *Want* of *Money*, meant to the Gentlemen of the *Militia* in particular, because this public Occasion was taken to mention the common *Calamity* upon us, upon the comparing our *Day* and *State* with that of our *Fathers*? By no means. The Complaint has no Relation to the *Soldiery* in particular, unless you would run it in the wise Comparison

Within another Century, our present Way continuing, to what are our Numbers like to be reduced? as those in our Books to a Multitude of Noughts, which we call so many hundreds and thousands; so the Numbers of our People to a Multitude of Debtors and Starvelings, the Property of Them who now feed our infatiable Vanity, to whom we are selling our Families as fast as we can for a little Dress.

Where then is our Courage, or rather where our Shame! can we bear this? then fold up your Ensign, and hush your Drum, put off your Scarlet, and lay down your Arms; and let me leave the Desk, with that first of Lamentations over Judah, when she had destroy'd her self; "She that was Princess among the Provinces, how is she become tributary?

But let us recover our Arms: CHRIST our King and Captain lives! Of Him it is testified, that He liveth. He can humble and reform us; respirit, revive and restore us. Of his Fulness we may receive, and Grace for Grace. Whatsoever we ask of the Father in his Name, He will do it. One Day is with Him as a thousand Years, and a thousand

rison of Solomon, "Thy Want as an armed Man; i.e. "unexpected, irresistible and most destructive. --- I tho't the Silks and China were the Gentlewomens ware, and I know a great deal of this faulty Indulgence in their Families who never train'd in their Lives, and next to nothing of it in theirs who were in Arms before me. It should grieve us however, to see we can't bear to have our Sore touch'd, when it pains us so much and is ready to break, and the kindest thing any one can do is to lance and open it. --- I acknowledge however the Omission of two Lines, which were not so properly plac'd in the Discourse, and so might be liable to some Exception.

Years

Years as one Day, Our Centuries pass quick, and how Sovereign is the Rise and Fall of Families, Cities, Provinces and Kingdoms in every Century almost! but Thou art the same, and thy Years shall not fail. Heb. i. 12.

One Generation goes and another comes, but the Word of the Lord endureth for ever; the same to every Generation. This Word which by the Gospel is preached to us, was also to our Fathers, and received by Them with Love, Fear and Reverence. The LORD has commanded it to a thousand Generations. We will not hide it from our Children, but show to the Generations to come the Praises of the Lord and his Strength.

Know therefore, that the Lord thy God, He is God; the faithful God, which keepeth Covenant and Mercy with them that love Him, to a thousand Generations; and repayeth them that hate Him to their Face, to destroy them. He is the Lord our God, his Judgments are in all the Earth. Seek the Lord and his Strength, seek his Face evermore; glory ye in his holy Name. Return unto Me, saith the Lord, and I will return unto you. Let our Souls answer, with the lamenting Church, "Turn thou us and we shall be turned; renew our Days as of old. Wilt thou not revive us again, that thy People may rejoice in Thee! shew us thy Mercy, O Lord, and grant us thy Salvation.

If CHRIST in the Cloud of Glory will cover our Camp, and dwell in our Churches, we shall yet be safe and flourishing. But else in vain is Salvation hoped for from the Hills & Mountains. Worthy is the LAMB to receive Power and Riches, and Wisdom and Strength, and Honour and Glory & Blessing! JESUS has sent his Angel to testify of Him in his Churches; HE is the Root and Offspring of David, and the bright and Morning Star.

